

Appl. No. 09/782,178  
Amdt. dated July 30, 2003  
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

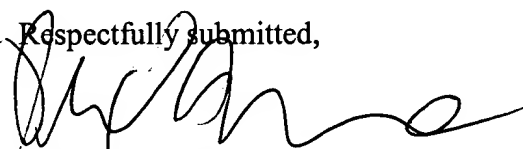
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 7/31/03

  
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